

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 14, 2017– 9:00 a. m.
John W. Collette Education Resource Center

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a. m. by Chairperson Dr. Bradley Layfield.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Stan Waterman, Dr. Matthew Donovan, Evelyn Edney, Ted Laws, Bruce Harris, Gary Cimaglia, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Robert Cilento, Robert Watson, Mike Hart, Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Mike Breeding, Dr. Mervin Daugherty, Vetra Evans-Gunter, Leroy Mann, and Jeremy Jeanne. Thomas Neubauer, Executive Director, Laura Makransky, Deputy Attorney General, and DIAA staff Terre Taylor and Tina Bates were also in attendance. Susanne Williams, Douglas Thompson, and Dr. Bradley Bley were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Breeding made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and carried unanimously, 11 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Fitzgerald, Breeding, and Evans-Gunter) and 0 – no.

D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA August 10, 2017 Board Meeting

Due to an insufficient number of Board members in attendance to approve the minutes, the Board did not take any action to approve the minutes. The minutes will be posted in draft form and the item will be placed on an upcoming agenda.

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Neubauer reported that DIAA expenses are regular for this time of year and that the income is light but member dues are starting to come in. Mr. Cilento made a motion to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Evans-Gunter and carried unanimously, 11 - yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Fitzgerald, Breeding, and Evans-Gunter) and 0 – no.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. A. Approval of Tournament Sanctions

Mr. Neubauer explained that events denied were before our competition date.

Mr. Neubauer reported that the 4 events pending had no Delaware schools participating in them. Mr. Neubauer stated that to the best of his knowledge the 13 approved were in compliance with DIAA and NFHS regulations. Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the sanction events. The motion was seconded by Dr. Donovan and carried unanimously, 11 yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Fitzgerald, Breeding, and Evans-Gunter) and 0 – no.

B. Request to Waive 1009.2.4 by Caravel Academy – 2017-9-1

Student, student's mother and father were in attendance to present this request. Mr. Waterman recused himself from this hearing. The Board went into executive session for the purposes of discussing the request, including the content of the pupil file.

While in executive session, the hearing proceeded, evidence was taken, and the Board held deliberations. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. All the documentation was made part of the record and in addition to the testimony given the Board considered the written documentation provided.

The Board went into deliberation. The Board came out of deliberation and then came out of executive session.

Mr. Breeding made a motion to table the waiver until the October meeting requesting additional information regarding medical and financial hardship. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cilento and carried by a vote of 10 – yes (Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Fitzgerald, Breeding, and Evans-Gunter) 0 – no.

C. Request to Waive 1009.2.4 by Concord HS – 2017-9-2

Student and student's mother were in attendance to present this request. The Board went into executive session for the purposes of discussing the request, including the content of the pupil file.

While in executive session, the hearing proceeded, evidence was taken, and the Board held deliberations. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. All the documentation was made part of the record and in addition to the testimony given the Board considered the written documentation provided.

The Board went into deliberation. The Board came out of deliberation and then came out of executive session.

Mr. Cilento made a motion to grant the waiver based on the financial hardship presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cimaglia and carried by a vote of

16 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Daugherty, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

D. Request to Join DIAA by First State Montessori Academy

Mr. Neubauer presented the request to join DIAA by First State Montessori Academy. Mr. Neubauer explained to the Board that Delaware public schools must join DIAA.

Mr. Hart made a motion to accept the request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Daugherty and carried by a vote of 16 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Daugherty, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

E. Request for the Continuation of Their Policy to Use 8th Grade Students at the High School Level per Regulation 1009.2.7.5 (Delmar, RLCA, Tower Hill, Tatnall, Sanford, Caravel, JDHS, WCS, Conrad, St. Elizabeth, NCS, and WFS)

Mr. Neubauer reported that he received a request for continuation of the policies for 8th graders to play at the high school level for Delmar, Red Lion Christian Academy, Tower Hill, Tatnall, Sanford, Caravel, John Dickinson High School, Wilmington Christian School, Conrad, St. Elizabeth, Newark Charter School, and Wilmington Friends School.

Mr. Hart made a motion to grant the request to continue the 8th grade policies. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mann and carried by a vote of 16 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Daugherty, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

F. Approval of Committee Charges (definitions) by Board for Rules and Regulations Committee

Ms. Makransky presented the revised drafts of the Committee Charges.

Mr. Hart reported that some athletic directors were upset about what input they have with Committees specifically with field hockey and soccer.

Mr. Hart made a motion to accept the Committee Charges as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harris and carried by a vote of 16 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Edney, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento,

Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Daugherty, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

G. Request by Urban Promise Academy to Join DIAA

This request was withdrawn.

IV. Board Discussion Items

A. Realignment

Mr. Jeanne commented on the state championships being won by the same teams in many sports and indicated his desire to see the Board move forward with realignment committee pilot. Dr. Daugherty agreed and added that a change is needed if we believe athletics enhance education. Mr. Laws also commented on the role of the conferences and the resistance from the Henlopen Conference. Ms. Makransky confirmed that the Board does have the authority to proceed with a pilot program.

The Board discussed having Ms. Taylor present the pilot program at the Chiefs' October 5th meeting.

Mr. Laws commented that the realignment needs to be presented to the Chiefs and put on agenda for next month. Dr. Fitzgerald commented that he would confirm being on the agenda.

V. Legal Training and Responsibilities Session for Board Members

This item is being moved to next month.

VI. Executive Director Report

Mr. Neubauer reviewed a thank you letter from Tower Hill for being honored as a State Champion in Sportsmanship.

Mr. Neubauer reported that DMA and A. I. DuPont HS submitted letters in response to the Board's request.

VII. Other Items for Discussion Only

Mr. Neubauer proposed three questions to the Board which were:

1. Do you consider Indoor versions of an Outdoor sport to be coaching the same sport?
 - a. Examples: Soccer, Field Hockey, Lacrosse

2. May Indoor Track teams contest the 5 field events of an Indoor Meet, (Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, and Shot Put) outside during the Indoor season if weather permits?
3. May schools apply for an automatic exemption from the seasonal team limitation for athletes who get invited to Elite Track events?

The Board discussed Board management software and adding it as an item to next month's agenda.

VIII. Public Comment

None

IX Adjournment

Mr. Watson made a motion to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Laws and carried unanimously, 15 – yes (Waterman, Donovan, Laws, Harris, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Daugherty, Evans-Gunter, Mann, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

Tina Bates